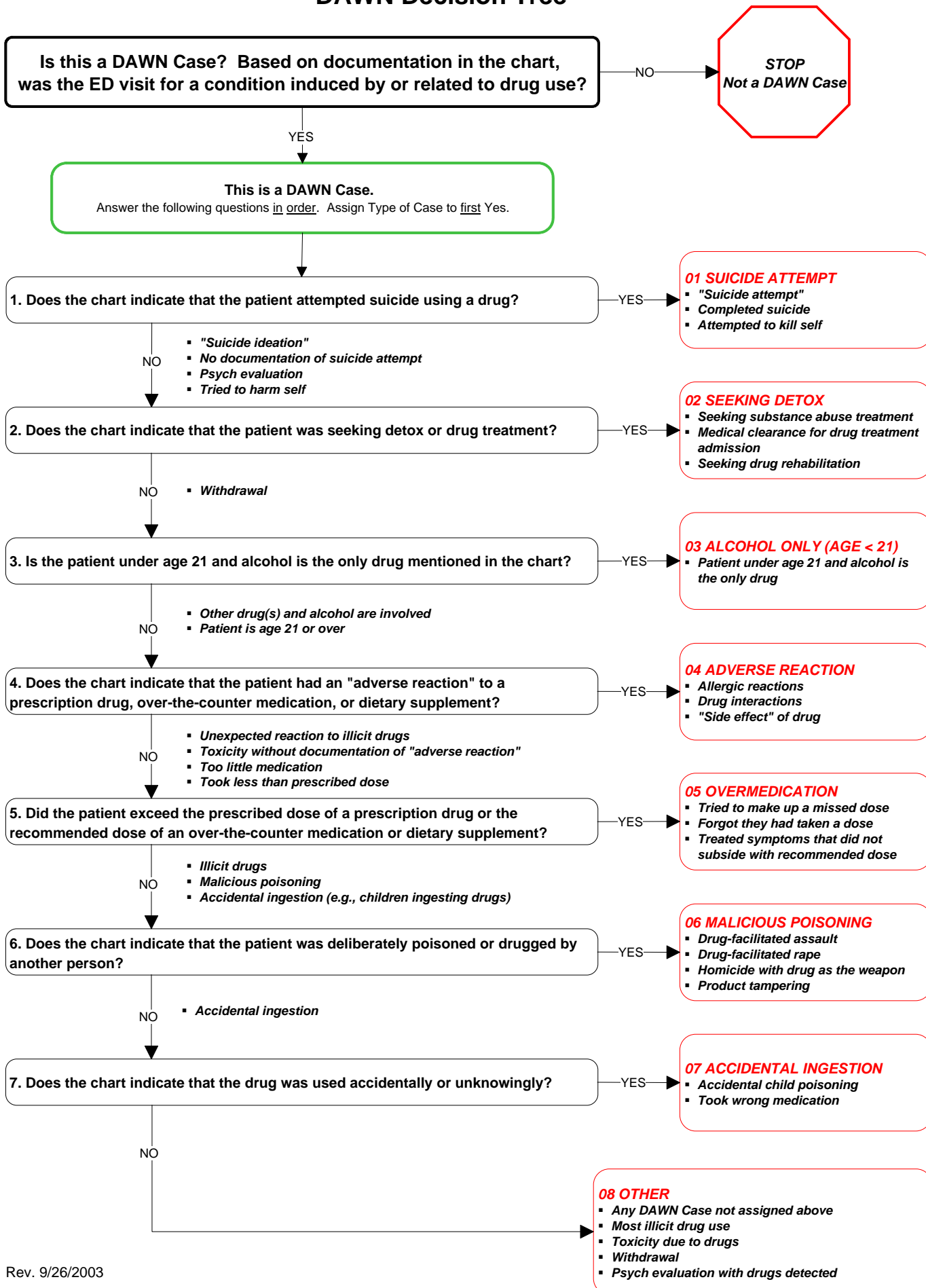


DAWN Decision Tree



ED Visits **NOT** Reportable to DAWN

- 1) Patient left the ED without being treated – The patient left the ED before treatment was initiated. Such charts often indicate “left without being seen” or LWBS. These include cases like:
 - A patient provided administrative information (e.g., insurance information) and symptoms, then got tired of waiting and left before treatment was initiated.
 - A patient came to pay a bill or to pick up medication for a CT scan scheduled for the next day.
- 2) A non-pharmaceutical substance was consumed but not inhaled – The non-pharmaceutical substance (e.g., Clorox®, paint, glue) was consumed by some means other than inhalation. Non-pharmaceuticals are reportable only if inhaled (e.g., inhaling paint fumes while painting a closet).
 - The patient drank turpentine. This is **NOT** a DAWN case.
 - The patient injected gasoline while high on PCP. This is a DAWN case, but only the PCP is reportable.
- 3) Only a history of drug abuse is documented – Such documentation may appear in the social history section of the chart or the chart may have a notation indicating “history of drug abuse.” If documentation points only to a history of drug use/abuse (e.g., a patient who is HIV+ with a history of IVDA) and there is no evidence of current use, it is **NOT** a DAWN case.
- 4) Alcohol is the only substance involved and the patient is age 21 or over – Cases involving alcohol and no other substance are reportable only if the patient is less than 21 years old. Alcohol is reportable for adults only when present in combination with another reportable substance.
- 5) The only documentation of drug use is in toxicology test results – Documentation of drug use must be present in the chief complaint, assessment, or diagnoses. Toxicology may pick up current medications taken for legitimate therapeutic purposes, or drugs taken some time ago and unrelated to the visit. Therefore, toxicology alone is not sufficient evidence to make a case reportable. For example:
 - A man slipped on a wet concrete floor and fractured his hip. The toxicology result is positive for opiates. There is no other evidence of opiate use. This is **NOT** a DAWN case.
- 6) Drugs listed are not related to the visit – There is no documentation in the chief complaint, assessment, or diagnosis to indicate that the ED visit was related to the use of drugs, either legal or illicit. Regular medications not related to the ED visits are NOT reportable to DAWN. For example:
 - A 24 year-old female passenger in a bus accident was taken to the ED with a broken leg. She is a daily cocaine user, but there is no indication her cocaine use was connected to the injury. This is **NOT** a DAWN case.
- 7) There is no evidence of drug use – The chief complaint, assessment, or diagnosis does not refer to any drug use. Examples may include:
 - Drug Seekers – Patients who visit the ED to acquire specific drugs for unconfirmed condition(s).
 - Under-medication – Patients who forget or stop taking prescribed medications. The patient may be treated in the ED for a condition related to not taking a medication. This is **NOT** a DAWN case.